

I Claim:

1. An apparatus comprising a bore and a tapered shell, wherein said tapered shell comprises a first dimension at a
5 first end and a second dimension at a second end, said second dimension being larger than said first dimension, and wherein said tapered shell further comprises a plurality of ribs.
- 10 2. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises an extended end.
- 15 3. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs are positioned about the outer surface of said tapered shell.
4. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein said plurality of ribs extend along at least a portion of said tapered shell.

5. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said plurality of ribs extend perpendicularly to the circumference of the tapered shell.

5 6. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein said tapered shell further comprises attachment means for connecting to a connecting device.

10 7. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein a portion of an outer surface of said apparatus is lubricated.

8. The method of splicing a plurality of cable members comprising a plurality of cable adapters comprising the steps of:

- 15 (a) providing a mandrel including ribs on the outer surface to be positioned on a termination preparation of said cable members;
- (b) providing lubrication means for lubricating said outer surface of said mandrel;
- 20 (c) positioning said mandrel and said termination preparation within said cable adapter to expand the internal cavity of said cable adapter thereby

allowing said cable adapter to be forced over said cable termination.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of
5 removing said mandrel from said termination preparation for
installation.

10. An apparatus as described in claim 1, further
comprising two halves, each of said halves extending along
10 the longitudinal axis of said apparatus, wherein a cable
member may be inserted therethrough.

11. A method of installing a recoverable electrical
insulating device having a bore therein for placing a
15 prepared electrical cable member therethrough comprising
the steps of:

(a) providing a mandrel means having a first end of a
first diameter and a second end of a second
diameter larger than said first diameter of said
20 first end,
comprising a tapered exterior surface between said
first end and said second end and a bore

therethrough from said first end to said second end,

wherein exterior surface of said mandrel comprises ribs;

- 5 (b) providing lubrication means for lubricating said exterior surface of said mandrel;
- (c) placing said bore of said mandrel onto said prepared electrical cable member;
- (d) forcing said recoverable electrical insulating device over said mandrel and said prepared electrical cable member thereby expanding at least a portion of said recoverable electrical insulating device to allow for lubrication to remain within the internal cavity of said recoverable electrical insulating device within the voids between the ribs of said mandrel; and
- 10 (e) contraction means for providing a snug fit around said prepared electrical cable.
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- 20 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of removing said mandrel from said prepared electrical cable is carried out by breaking said mandrel.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein said mandrel remains within said removable electrical insulating device.

14. An apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising two halves, each of said halves extending along the longitudinal axis of said apparatus, wherein a cable member may be inserted therethrough and wherein said cable member may be removed from the apparatus by separating said two halves.

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15. An apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of separable portions, each of said portions extending along the longitudinal axis of said apparatus, wherein a cable member may be inserted therethrough.

16. An apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of separable portions, each of said portions extending along the longitudinal axis of said apparatus, wherein a cable member may be inserted

therethrough and wherein said cable member may be removed from the apparatus by separating said portions.

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